

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. An isolated nucleotide sequence comprising the SBMu200 gene.
2. (Amended) An isolated nucleotide sequence that mediates male fertility in plants comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding any of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID Nos. 2, or 4 or 8 and those sequences which hybridize to the nucleotide sequences encoding any of the amino acid sequences of SEQ ID Nos. 2, or 4 or 8 under highly stringent conditions.
3. An isolated DNA molecule that mediates fertility in plants comprising a nucleotide sequence of any of SEQ ID Nos. 1, 3, or 7 and those sequences which hybridize to the nucleotide sequences of SEQ ID Nos. 1, 3, or 7 under highly stringent conditions.
4. A plant cell transformed by the nucleotide sequence of Claim 1.
5. A plant cell transformed by the nucleotide sequence of Claim 2.
6. A plant cell transformed by the nucleotide sequence of Claim 3.
7. A plant transformed by a nucleotide sequence of Claim 1.
8. A plant transformed by a nucleotide sequence of Claim 2.
9. A plant transformed by a nucleotide sequence of Claim 3.
10. The plant of Claim 7 wherein the plant is maize.
11. The plant cell of Claim 4 wherein the cell is a maize cell.
12. A method of impacting fertility of a plant comprising impacting the SBMu200 gene.
13. (Amended) A method of impacting fertility of a plant comprising impacting a nucleotide sequence in the plant encoding the amino acid sequence of any of SEQ ID Nos 2, or 4 or 8 the nucleotide sequences of any of SEQ. ID Nos. 1, 3, or 7 and those sequences which hybridize to any of said sequences under highly stringent conditions.
14. The method of Claim 12 wherein the sequence expression is repressed.
15. The method of Claim 12 wherein expression of the nucleotide sequence is repressed by mutation of the nucleotide sequence.
- 16- 26 (Withdrawn)
27. An expression vector comprising a the DNA sequence of Claim 1.

28. The expression vector of claim 27 further comprising a exogenous gene, wherein the exogenous gene is operably linked to the promoter.
29. The expression vector of claim 27 wherein the promoter is selected from any one of CaMV35S, SGB6, SBMu200, MS45 or 5126.
30. (Withdrawn)
31. Plant cells comprising the vector of claim 27.
32. (Withdrawn)
33. (Withdrawn)
34. A nucleotide sequence as represented in ATCC deposit no. 98931.